

ALASKA AELS BOARD

November 2000

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Quarterly Board Meeting

The AELS Board held its quarterly Board meeting in Anchorage on November 16-17th, 2000. Some highlights of the meeting:

Web Based Arctic Engineering

Course: The board approved a web based format course for arctic engineering (CE A603) to be offered by the University of Alaska, Anchorage campus. Dr. Orson Smith presented an overview of the course. Students may enroll on campus or via the telephone Wolfline (see <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu> for Wolfline instructions). An email address must be included with enrollment information. Contact Dr. Smith at afops@uaa.alaska.edu for more information.

February agenda item

The Board carried over an item to its February 15-16, 2001 meeting. The Board will take public comment on issuing a "generic professional engineering license" as 41 other jurisdictions offer. Interested parties can comment by email, in writing or by attending the meeting. The Board agendas will be available about 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Public comment (tentatively) will be taken at 1:15 p.m. on February 15th.

Sunset Audit

The AELS board is up for sunset review on 6/30/01. All boards undergo a sunset review every four years. As part of this process, first a preliminary confidential report is filed and the agency and the board have an opportunity to respond. A final, public audit is anticipated to be released next month or by January 2001 by the Division of Legislative Audit.

The AELS Board met with the Division of Occupational Licensing Director, Catherine Reardon, in executive session to review the confidential preliminary audit of the AELS board. The director will provide the auditors with a written response.

Applicant Files Reviewed

The Board reviewed 33 applicants' files for examination or comity licensure for architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects. Of those, 21 were approved for comity licensure and 12 for examination. None were found incomplete or denied.

The board considered a lapsed licensee's application for renewal and decided due to an outstanding disciplinary action to renew contingent upon the party taking an ethics course and paying a nominal fine.

Landscape Architect Registration

The legislature passed HB 110 in 1998 and the Board adopted statutes and regulations that require practicing landscape architects to be registered 60 days after the first administered Landscape Architects Registration Examination is graded.

The first LARE was given on June 12, 13, and 14, 2000 in Anchorage. Scores were reported August 25, 2000, and effective October 24, 2000, all Landscape Architects must be registered.

Application deadline for June 2001 LARE:

Examination applications must be received by the Juneau Occupational Licensing Office by February 5, 2001 to be considered for the June 11-13, 2001, LARE examination. Application forms are available on the AELS website

(<http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>), are fill-out-able on line and can be printed and mailed to the Juneau office, or are available by calling the office at 465-2540.

Landscape Architects may also be registered by comity. **Comity application deadline** for the February 15-16, 2001 Board meeting is February 5, 2001.

Regulations Project

The Board reviewed current regulations project. Regulations were public noticed October 13 (public comment closes 12/14/00):

- 1) as a result of the passage of HB 130 relating to Limited Liability Companies, the Board initiated a regulations project to establish regulations for limited liability companies and limited liability partnerships that would model the current corporate authorization regulations;
- 2) delete 12 AAC 36.115 (b)(2) regarding collection of fees from retired status licensees;
- 3) Accept the NCEES Council record stamped "model law engineer" to meet the minimum standards for comity licensure, except that applicants will still need to complete the arctic engineering course;

Additionally, regulations (public noticed July 7, 2000, with comment taken through August 14, 2000) were adopted at the August 2000 meeting that would:

- 1) clarify items the Board will accept for conditional approval of exam and comity applicants;
- 2) fine tune the corporate authorization regulation regarding responsible charge; and
- 3) make technical edits to last year's regulation project, including the reference to the NCARB publication.

Prior to adopting the new regulations, the Board made some changes at the August meeting including clarifying the documents necessary for review, and other minor edits.

The Board discussed additional draft proposed regulations held over until the February 2001 AELS meeting:

- 1) to provide discipline authority for applicants for all professions (architect, engineer, land surveyor, and landscape architect);
- 2) lapsed licensees reexamination procedures (12 AAC 36.165(b) and (d));
- 3) Retired status re-examination procedures (12 AAC 36.115(b)(3)).

AELS Technology Update

The AELS applications are NOW available in a fill-out-able format on the website at <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>.

In an effort to provide applicants and registrants more efficient services, the Board discussed with Catherine Reardon, Director of the Division of Occupational Licensing, at their August 2000 meeting, options for computer technology improvements. The Board decided that Board member Lance Mearig would work with staff as Board liaison for data processing on enhancements to the Oracle system. Initial work will cover improvements that would aid staff in streamlining score reporting, and provide applicants with online checklists they can access to determine missing information needed for examination approval or licensing. The OL is working on refining work the Board would like to have done.

Public Comment

There were no public members wishing to comment at the November 2000 Board meeting.

Unlicensed Advertising Prohibited

Ongoing notification:
Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects licensed by another state may not advertise in Alaska unless registered in Alaska. Alaska Statute 08.48.281 prohibits the unlicensed practice or offer to practice as an Architect, Engineer, Land Surveyor, or Landscape Architect. Under Alaska

Statute 08.48.321, advertising as an Architect, Engineer, Land Surveyor, or Landscape Architect in the telephone yellow pages constitutes an "offer to practice" and is prohibited unless the professional holds a current Alaska registration through comity or examination. Violation of these state laws is a misdemeanor criminal offense and, in addition, is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.

Staff Reports

The Administrator, Investigator, Board member, and staff conference reports are attached to this report.